

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00876 271950Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 /015 W

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O 271745Z OCT 76

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5297

UNCLAS BELIZE 0876

FOR CU/ARTS AND CU/ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL BH

SUBJECT: ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE CENTER WORKSHOP

REF: STATE 259447

1. CONSULATE GENERAL FINDS THE POSSIBILITY OF VISIT HERE BY ALVIN AILEY COMPANY IN LATE NOVEMBER MOST TIMELY AND WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SPONSOR A PERFORMANCE. COMPANY SEEMS WELL SUITED TO BELIZEAN AUDIENCES AND VISIT WOULD COINCIDE WITH CLIMAX OF NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL. CONSULATE GENERAL ENVISIONS BILLING EVENT AS BICENTENNIAL CULTURAL PRESENTATION TO BELIZEANS AND PERFORMANCE COULD ALSO BENEFIT LOCAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY, WHICH IS SEEKING FUNDS REBUILD BELIZE CITY HOSPITAL AFTER COSTLY FIRE EARLIER THIS MONTH. WE WOULD PROPOSE TURNING OVER MANAGEMENT OF PERFORMANCE -- TICKET SALES, HIRING OF HALL, ARRANGING FOR EQUIPMENT, ETC. -- TO AUXILIARY, WHICH WOULD RETAIN GATE RECEIPTS FOR HOSPITAL.

3. STICKING POINT IS OF COURSE FUNDING FOR PERFORMANCE AND TRAVEL OF COMPANY TO AND FROM BELIZE. CONSULATE GENERAL IS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FINDING LOCAL SPONSOR AND HOLDS LITTLE HOPE THAT OTHER POSTS IN CA AREA WILL ALSO WISH SPONSOR COMPANY. WE THEREFORE WONDER WHETHER CU CAN MAKE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE (WE ESTIMATE APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 4,500) OR OFFER OTHER FUNDING SUGGESTIONS. AS POSSIBLE, THOUGH PERHAPS NOT PARTICULARLY UNCLASSIFIED

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DESIRABLE ALTERNATIVE, WE FEEL PERFORMANCE WOULD BE OF

SUFFICIENT MERIT TO WARRANT CONSIDERATION OF USING FUNDS ALLOCATED TO CONGEN'S FY-1977 EXCHANGE PROGRAM. ARE THESE FUNDS TRANSFERABLE TO SPONSORSHIP OF CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS? IF SO, WE WOULD BE PREPARED FOREGO SPONSORSHIP OF THE TWO LEADER GRANTS CONTEMPLATED FOR FY-1977.

4. CONGEN WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL ASAP?

GAWF

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NNN

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